FAMILY GUY
"Powerball Fever" – Outline
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ACT ONE

1. INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

(Hilarious TV gag.) Lois enters carrying a laundry basket filled with clothes and asks Peter for the car keys. The washing machine is broken, so she's going to the Laundromat downtown. Peter gives her the car keys but tells her to take it easy driving, because the car's been making a funny noise. Cutaway to the "funny noise" the car's been making. Lois says they don't have money to fix both the washing machine and the car. Just then, Chris enters and says he needs a new backpack. Peter takes off his belt and beats him mercilessly. P: "You think you're better than your old man?!"

2. INT. GRIFFINS' KITCHEN – DAY

The Griffins sit around the table in front of empty plates for their monthly "dinner with no food." Once a month, they skip dinner; this is how they manage to balance their grocery budget. Meg: "But why do we have to sit here and stare at each other?" Lois: "Because we're a family, and we're gonna not eat dinner together!"

3. INT. DRUNKEN CLAM – NIGHT

Peter, Joe, and Quagmire sit at their booth. On the TV, Tom Tucker reports that the Rhode Island State Lottery has climbed to a record fifty million dollar jackpot, and "Powerball Fever" has gripped Quahog. We see a man-on-the-street interview with Tricia Takanawa (or does Seth now prefer Gary Bradley?) interviewing Mort who states that if he wins the jackpot, he will do something amusingly Jewish. Peter is excited and says he is going to buy a ticket.

4. EXT./INT. CONVENIENCE STORE – DAY

A line of Quahogians stretches around the corner, and we see a header where Seamus says he knows what he'll do if he wins the jackpot, and we cut to him floating in a hot tub like a piece of driftwood with a bunch of hot chicks. Inside the store, Peter nears the front of the line. The guy ahead of him asks Carl for two tickets. P: "You mean you can buy more than one ticket?! I'll be right back!"

5. INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM – DAY

Peter enters with two large boxes filled with lottery tickets and announces that the family's problems are over; they're going to win the lottery. Lois asks him where he got the money for all those tickets. Simple, he took out a

second mortgage on the house, so he could buy two hundred thousand tickets. Lois is furious. And Brian points out that even with all those tickets, Peter still only has like a .05 percent chance of winning. But Peter is undaunted. Winning the lottery will solve all their problems.

6. INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM – NIGHT

(Slightly less hilarious TV gag.) Peter runs in and tells Lois to change the channel; they're announcing the winning numbers. Tom Tucker announces the numbers, then checks his own ticket, thinks he's won, curses out Joyce, the station manager, and the viewers at home, then realizes he misread a number and sits down to continue with the next news story. At the Griffins' house, Peter now has to sort through boxes of tickets to see if one of them is a winner.

7-9. INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM – NIGHT/DAY

We see a few short scenes of Peter, Brian, and the kids staying up all night to check the tickets. Maybe at one point they forget which is the box of tickets they've already checked and which is the box of tickets they need to check and have to start all over again. As dawn begins to break, Brian groggily checks a ticket, then suddenly

screams with excitement; it's a winner. The family has won fifty million dollars!

ACT TWO

1. EXT. CITY HALL – DAY

Mayor West presents the Griffins with a giant check for fifty million dollars. The city has also built them a giant bank, so they can cash it. Mayor West: "And this is a giant pen, so you can endorse it. And this is a Giant Chicken." Peter: "Yes, we've met." Lois thanks the crowd for their well-wishes, but assures them that this lottery win is not going to change the family. They're still gonna be the same old Griffins. Peter agrees. In fact, he's gonna be one of those lottery millionaires who still goes into work at his old job every day.

2. INT. PAWTUCKET PATRIOT BREWERY – DAY

Peter sits at his desk. Angela enters and says, "Good morning, Griffin." Peter slams his hand on his desk, "That's it! I quit!"

3. EXT. QUAHOG STREET – DAY

Peter, Joe, and Quagmire ride in the back of a limo with a hot tub, smoking cigars and throwing fistfuls of

hundred-dollar bills at pedestrians, like classy rich guys. Peter says that work is for suckers. P: "This is the way its always gonna be, fellas. The three of us livin' large and havin' a blast with my money." Joe and Quagmire agree.

4. INT. JAMES WOODS HIGH SCHOOL – DAY

Now that Meg is rich, Connie, Gina, and the cool kids are suddenly interested in being friends with her. Connie suggests they go get really good fake IDs (Meg's treat, of course) and see if they can get into nightclubs. Meg is excited to be included.

5. INT./EXT. GRIFFINS' HOUSE – DAY

Lois, Chris, Brian, and Stewie are watching TV when they hear a car horn honk. They go outside to find Peter pulling up in his new mink car. P: "Lined entirely in mink fur, Lois. By the way, I think minks are now extinct." Lois asks if Peter thinks it's wise to spend money on such an extravagant purchase. Peter says sure, live it up! They're rich now; they deserve to splurge a little. Chris asks if he can get a new backpack. Peter says of course, whatever you want. Chris is elated. Brian: "Chris, you can afford almost anything. Are you sure a new backpack is all you want?" Chris: "It's all I need." Peter tells Lois

to splurge, too. P: "Go buy yourself a new outfit or something." Lois agrees. Stewie asks Brian what he's going to spend his money on. Brian says he's been thinking that now that he's rich, it should be easier for him to get women. S: "But why would you want to be with a woman who's only interested in you for your money?" B: "It's a grownup thing, Stewie, you wouldn't understand." S: "Ohhh… it's about fucking some tight, young twat." B: "Yes."

6. INT. DRUNKEN CLAM – NIGHT

Peter, Joe, and Quagmire hang out. Drinks are, of course, on Peter. Peter asks the guys one of their usual "who would your rather have sex with?" questions. Then Quagmire says, "I've got one. What would you rather do? Tread water where you are right now? Or increase your net worth fivefold?" He pitches Peter a clearly sketchy investment opportunity and wants thirty thousand dollars. Peter says, "Sure, why not?" He'll write Quagmire a check. Joe says while Peter's at it, there's this experimental new operation to restore his mobility that Bonnie wants him to try, but it costs fifty thousand dollars. Peter says he'll give Joe the money, too. After all, they're his best pals.

7. INT. NIGHT CLUB – NIGHT

Meg is getting bottle service at a nightclub with Connie and Gina. Connie brings over a sketchy older guy who she says wants to sell them some cocaine. Meg isn't sure, but Connie and Gina pressure her into trying a little bit. CUT TO a shot of a bunch of women primping from the POV of a restroom mirror. Meg pops up into frame among them, like Uma Thurman in "Pulp Fiction" and screams at her reflection, "Yeah, bitch!"

In another part of the club, Brian and Stewie sit at a table with a bunch of hot girls. Stewie can't believe all Brian had to do was give the bouncer a hundred dollars and they let a baby into a nightclub. As Brian talks to one of the hot girls, she says that she's a model. B: "That's so amazing, I own a magazine!" S: "Brian, what are you talking about? You don't own a magazine." B: "Shhh. Tomorrow morning, go buy me a magazine." FLIP TO:

8. INT. OFFICE BUILDING – DAY

Stewie and Brian stand in a hallway lined with photos of African American people in suits. B: "You bought me Black Enterprise Magazine?!" S: "Okay, you sound really racist right now."

9. INT. GRIFFINS' HOUSE – NIGHT

The establishing shot of the house now includes a very large and gaudy fountain on the front lawn. Inside, the family, minus Meg, sits down for their idea of a fancy, classy dinner. Lois is wearing a new outfit she bought herself and says how very happy she is, but her expression is completely neutral. Apparently, she also got herself a little Botox. The doorbell rings. It's Quagmire and Joe. They've come over for their checks. Peter pulls out his checkbook and says he's glad they're here. He bought a zoo, and they're gonna go over there tonight and make a rhino fight a zebra. Joe says he can't go; it's Bonnie's birthday, and he's taking her out to dinner. Quagmire can't go either; he's got a hot date. P: "Wait a minute, you guys've got time to come over here and take my money, but you don't have time to hang out with me?" The guys tell Peter that's not how it is; they just have prior obligations. Peter starts to put away his checkbook, "Well, then I guess you don't really want these checks." The guys agree to cancel their plans and hang out with Peter. Peter laughs his new coldhearted rich guy laugh. Lois says she doesn't like how Peter is treating his friends. Peter says he doesn't like Lois' boobs, ass, thighs, or stomach. Just then, Meg staggers in coked out

of her mind with the sketchy coke dealer and says something obnoxious. Lois sends the coke dealer home, and tells Meg to go to her room. Meg curses her out. Lois says she doesn't like what's happening to this family and starts to cry hysterically, but with a neutral expression.

ACT THREE

1-3. INT./EXT. VARIOUS – DAY/NIGHT

Triplet of Peter forcing Quagmire and Joe to be at his beck and call. At the top of the first gag, we recap the idea that Peter feels like because he's giving Joe and Quagmire money, they should be available to him whenever he wants to hang out. And throughout the triplet we see how the dynamic of their friendship has changed. Peter is now in charge, and it's not working for Quagmire and Joe.

- Peter makes them launch Ming vases and lobsters into the air, so he can shoot them with a rifle. When they run out of Ming vases and lobsters, Peter starts buying the guys' possessions so he can shoot them. P: "I'll give you five hundred dollars for Susie's favorite doll."
- Peter makes them take shifts sitting by his bed at night in case he wakes up and wants to hang out.

- Peter makes them watch him swim in a giant tank of coins like Scrooge McDuck.

4. EXT. NIGHT CLUB – NIGHT

A coked-up Meg arrives at a club with the sketchy coke dealer and a bunch of other rich chicks. Connie and Gina are on line, and they ask Meg to help them get in, but Meg blows them off. When Meg tries to cut the line and get into the club, a bouncer stops her, and Meg goes into a coke-fueled rant: "My father is lottery winner, Peter Griffin! I could buy and sell you a thousand times! I can lift a Volvo over my head and run faster than jackoleopard, which is an animal I just invented, because I'm a genius!" All the while, blood trickles out her nose, down her face, and all over her outfit. Finally, she sneezes and part of her brain comes out her nose. She stuffs it back in.

5. INT. GRIFFINS' HOUSE – DAY

Lois now has more extreme plastic surgery: breast implants, butt implants, liposuction, collagen lips, etc. Brian suggests that she might be overdoing it. Lois says, "Look who's talking, you bought a magazine just to impress a girl." Lois then picks up Stewie to breastfeed him, but

as soon as he reaches her breast, he gets shot across the room by a high-pressure torrent of breast milk.

Peter then enters with Quagmire and Joe. He's been running them around for days, making them cater to his every whim. Peter tells them to run home and change, because he bought them all tickets for Richard Branson's next rocket to outer space. The guys tell him "that's it," they're not going to outer space. Peter calls them a couple of ingrates. They tell him to go fuck himself. Peter says he doesn't need them anyway. He's rich; he can buy new friends. Peter looks at Lois and asks if she got a different haircut or something.

6. INT. "BLACK ENTERPRISE MAGAZINE" OFFICES – DAY

Brian has set up a photo shoot for the girl he's trying to impress: a special spread on Caucasians who are not entrepreneurs. After the shoot, he asks her out on a date. She declines, saying she has a boyfriend. And he's very poor, so the money from this photo shoot is really gonna help them. Brian accuses her of leading him on, but she says she didn't realize Brian was attracted to her; she just thought he was being nice. Brian explains that men are never nice to attractive women for no reason. She calls him a jerk and leaves. Disappointed, Brian tells

Stewie he might as well sell the magazine. Stewie tells him the magazine is actually bankrupt. Magic Johnson launched a competing magazine, "Magic Johnson's Black Enterprise Magazine," and it's driven them out of business.

7. EXT./INT. GRIFFINS' HOUSE – DAY

Brian and Stewie return home to find Meg's new car crashed into the fountain on the front lawn and Meg passed out in the middle of the living room, next to a pile of coke. She has OD'ed. Stewie stabs her in the chest with an adrenaline shot, then tries to recite some line for "Pulp Fiction," but has to admit it's been a really long time since he's seen the movie and may have messed that up.

8. INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM – DAY

Peter is in the living room with his new hired friends – perhaps it's the cast of "Entourage." Brian, Stewie, Lois, and Chris enter. They were visiting Meg in the hospital. Lois now has even more extreme plastic surgery. She looks like a unicorn. She has a horse's mane, a horn in the middle of her forehead, an elongated muzzle, and a tail. Peter asks her if that's like a new shirt or something. Brian informs Peter that not only is his family in shambles, but due to Meg's hospital bills, the failure

of the magazine, and everyone's extravagant spending, they're now completely broke. Now that there's no money, Peter's hired friends leave. Peter is distraught. P: "Now we're poor and worthless again! And worst of all, I lost my buddies!" L: "You still have us." P: "Mya!" Peter runs off.

8. INT. GRIFFINS' BATHROOM – NIGHT

Peter prepares to commit suicide. He has drawn a bath and surrounded it with lit candles. "Fast Car" by Tracy Chapman plays on the radio (or maybe "Suicide is Painless" by Johnny Mandel). Peter climbs into the bathtub and prepares to slit his wrists. But before he can do it, Joe and Quagmire burst in and stop him. They heard Tracy Chapman playing out the window and figured something must be horribly wrong. They tell Peter he can't kill himself, because that would be like the worst thing that ever happened to them, including Joe's son, Kevin, getting killed in Iraq. Peter apologizes for being such a jerk, and the guys apologize for taking advantage of him.

9. INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM – DAY

Wrap-up scene where everything is back to normal: the gaudy fountain is gone, some workmen are in the process of

repossessing all the family's other new possessions, Meg is no longer coked-up, and Lois is no longer a unicorn. The family acknowledges that winning the lottery was the worst thing that ever happened to them. Not only did it not solve all their problems, it actually created new ones. They're happy to simply be the same old Griffins again, because all they really need is each other. Chris adds that he's happy the bank let him keep his new backpack. The family then tears it apart. Peter: (THROUGH GRITTED TEETH) "Now you got nothin'. Just like the rest of us."